

**Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Forestwide Stand Improvement CE
Forest Plan Goals, Objectives, and Standards Supplement**

Clearwater Forest Plan Direction

Forestwide Goals, Objectives and Standards:

Wildlife Goals (p. II-2)

- a. Provide habitat for viable populations of all indigenous wildlife species.
- b. Maintain and, where appropriate, improve the winter and summer habitat over time to support increased populations of big-game wildlife species.

Wildlife Objective (p II-5)

- b. Provide adequate elk winter range to support 19,900 elk by 2005.

Timber Goals (p. II-2)

- a. Provide a sustained yield of timber and other outputs at a level that is cost-efficient and that will help support the economic structure of local communities and will provide regional and national needs.
- b. Select on the ground those silvicultural systems that will be the most beneficial to long-term timber production but modified as necessary to meet other resource and management area direction.

Protection Goals (p. II-4)

- a. Prevent and suppress wildfires commensurate with resource values to be protected while recognizing the role of fire in ecological processes.
- b. Manage National Forest resources to prevent or reduce serious long lasting hazards from pest organisms utilizing principles of integrated pest management.

Protection Standard (p. II-35)

- 3. Treat activity fuel loadings to an acceptable level to reduce fire spread, and fire intensity, prepare sites for regeneration, and reduce impediment to wildlife travel.

Insect and Disease Standard (p. II-35)

- (1) Practice and encourage the use of integrated pest management methods which provide protection of Forest resources with the least hazard to human, wildlife, and the environment. The goal is optimum pest management that considers environmental hazards and economic efficiency.
- (2) Use silvicultural methods and schedule cultural practices which reduce the development and/or perpetuation of pest problems.

- (3) Favor the use of fire, hand treatment, natural control, or mechanical methods where feasible and economical when considering vegetation management.

Clearwater Management Areas

Management Area C4 (p. III-47-49)

- Goals:
 - a. Manage big-game winter range to provide sufficient forage and cover for existing and projected big-game populations and achieve timber production outputs.
 - b. Maintain a minimum of 25 percent of the area in stands of trees of adequate size for thermal cover distributed through and adjacent to forage areas. Cover areas should be 25 acres or larger.
 - c. Treat logging residue to prepare sites for reforestation, to break up continuous fuel beds, to remove barriers to big-game movement, and to improve forage.
 - d. Use prescribed fires from planned and unplanned ignitions as needed to achieve Forest Plan direction.
- Standards:
 - a. Manage for even-age timber stands, with emphasis on clearcut harvest methods to allow for early establishment of temporary elk winter forage.

Management Area C8S (pp. III-53-56)

- Goals: Maintain high quality wildlife and fishery objectives while producing timber from the projective Forest land. These objectives can be met by modifying standard timber practices and scheduling and prohibiting most public motorized uses. Wildlife objectives are primarily oriented at elk habitat management but are not to exclude moose habitat on the Powell District.
 - a. Maintain or enhance moose habitat as indicated by project or area analysis.
- Standards: Manage big-game summer range for a minimum of 75 percent of elk habitat potential.
- Protection Goals:
 - a. Limit the size of individual wildfires: (1) To one acre or less in immature timber stands especially plantations, thinned areas, etc. (2) To 40 acres or less in mature timber. (3) To 500 acres or less in brush fields.
 - b. Treat logging and thinning slash to prepare sites for reforestation, to break up continuous fuel beds, to remove barriers to big-game movement, and to improve forage.
 - c. Use prescribed fires from planned and unplanned ignitions as needed to achieve Forest Plan direction.

Management Area E1 (pp. III-57-59)

- Goals: Provide optimum, sustained production of wood products. Timber production is to be cost effective and provide adequate protection of soil and water quality. Manage viable elk populations within areas of historic elk use based on physiological and ecological needs. Manage a range of water quality and fish habitat potential from high fishable in several of the key

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Forestwide Stand Improvement CE – Forest Plan Goals and Standards Supplement

anadromous and resident fish streams to a low fishable in the Palouse District and portions of the Pierce District.

- Timber Standard: Maintain stocking control commensurate with the level of management intensity.
- 9. Protection Goals: a. Limit the size of individual wildfires: (1) To one acre or less in immature timber stands especially plantations, thinned areas, etc. (2) To 40 acres or less in mature timber. (3) To 500 acres or less in brush fields. b. Use prescribed fires from planned ignitions to treat activity and natural fuel loadings.

Management Area E3 (III-61-63)

- Goals: Manage timber while providing maximum protection of soil and watershed values. Manage the big-game summer range for a minimum of 25 percent potential elk habitat.
- 8. Protection Goals: a. Limit the size of individual wildfires: (1) To one acre or less in immature timber stands especially plantations, thinned areas, etc. (2) To 40 acres or less in mature timber. (3) To 500 acres or less in brush fields. b. Use prescribed fires from planned ignitions to treat activity and natural fuel loadings.

Nez Perce Forest Plan

Forestwide Management Direction (pp. II-1-27):

A. Goals:

- 13: Protect resource values through cost-effective fire and fuels management, emphasizing fuel treatment through the utilization of material and using prescribed fire.
- 14. Protect resource values through the practice of integrated pest management.
- Timber: Of the area managed for timber production, 66 percent will be managed with a primary emphasis on timber production, 13 percent will be managed to emphasize visual quality objectives of retention or partial retention, and 21 percent will be managed to emphasize big-game habitat on winter ranges.
- Protection: Actions to reduce timber losses due to insect and disease will be implemented when compatible with overall management direction. Control actions will generally be aimed at reducing the risk of infestations through silvicultural treatments in high and moderate risk stands.

B. Standards:

- 1. The prescribed fire planned ignition option is for those management areas where burning will be done to achieve management objectives such as browse rehabilitation, slash disposal, site preparation, etc.
- 2. Undertake hazard reduction treatments if activity-created fuels exceed 12 tons per acre of Materials less than 3 inches in diameter. Base assessments on the "Slash Hazard Appraisal."

Management Area 4 (pp. III-11): Management Area 4 consists of active or recently active mineral extraction and processing operations. As other mining operations are identified, total acreage in this management area will increase; as areas are rehabilitated, the acres in this management area will decrease. These areas are not displayed on management area maps.

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Forestwide Stand Improvement CE – Forest Plan Goals and Standards Supplement

- Standards:
 - Timber: 1. Lands are classified as "suitable" for timber management; timber harvest may be scheduled.
 - Protection: 1. Follow direction for adjacent areas. 2. Follow fire management direction for adjacent areas. 3. Wildfire management strategies include control, contain, and confine. The selected strategy, and specifics on implementation, shall depend upon location, expected fire behavior, and values at risk. Decision criteria shall be specified in the Fire Management Action Plan. 4. Planned and unplanned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 12 (pp. III-37-38)

- Goals:
 - Manage for timber production and other multiple uses on a sustained yield basis. Develop equal distribution of age classes to optimize timber production.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 109,444 acres to achieve at least 75 percent of habitat potential; 310,544 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential; and 114,225 acres to achieve at least 25 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards:
 - Lands are classified as "suitable" for timber management; schedule timber harvest.
 - Use primarily even-aged silvicultural systems. Final determination of the silvicultural system to be used will be based on an on-the-ground, site-specific analysis.
 - Plant or thin natural regeneration to reach desired stocking levels by age 20.
 - Planned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 13 (pp. III-40)

- Goals:
 - Manage for timber production and other multiple uses on a sustained yield basis while meeting the visual quality objectives of retention or partial retention on the areas with high to medium visual sensitivity.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 2,791 acres to achieve at least 75 percent of habitat potential; 6,635 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential; and 2,198 acres to achieve at least 25 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards: Follow MA 12 and MA 17 direction.

Management Area 14 (pp. III-42)

- Goals:

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Forestwide Stand Improvement CE – Forest Plan Goals and Standards Supplement

- Manage for timber production and other multiple uses on a sustained yield basis while meeting the visual quality objectives of retention or partial retention and improving the quality of the winter range habitat for deer and elk on the appropriate areas.
- The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 133 acres to achieve at least 75 percent of habitat potential; 882 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential; and 238 acres to achieve at least 25 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards: Follow MA 12, MA 16, and MA 17 direction, except for Fire Management as show below.
 - Fire Management: 1. Wildfire management strategies include control, contain, and confine. The strategy selected, and specifics on implementation, shall depend upon location, expected fire behavior, and values at risk. Decision criteria shall be specified in the Fire Management Action Plan. 2. Planned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 15 (pp. III-44)

- Goals:
 - Manage for timber production and other multiple uses on a sustained yield basis while improving the quality of the winter range habitat for deer and elk on the appropriate areas.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 5,011 acres to achieve at least 75 percent of habitat potential; 23,938 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential; and 10,427 acres to achieve at least 25 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards:
 - Follow MA 12 and MA 16 direction, except for fire management: planned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 16 (pp. III-46-47)

- Goals:
 - Improve the quality of the winter range habitat for deer and elk through timber harvesting, prescribed burning and other management practices.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 2,987 acres to achieve at least 75 percent of habitat potential; 15,115 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential; and 5,330 acres to achieve at least 25 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards:
 - Lands are classified as both "suitable" and "unsuitable" for timber management. The nonforest grasslands and seral brushfields are "unsuited" for timber management. The

timber stands in productivity classes 3, 4, 5, and 6 are classified as "suitable" for timber management.

- Schedule timber harvest on "suitable" lands. Design timber harvests to achieve desired combination of cover and forage. Salvage will be allowed for those areas not in the "suitable" land base.
- Determine the silvicultural system to be used based on an on-the-ground, site specific analysis.
- Design silvicultural prescriptions to provide for a prolonged period (10-20 years) of browse production. Site preparation practices will stimulate browse production for wildlife.
- Planned and unplanned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 17 (pp. III-49-50)

- Goals:
 - Manage for timber production within the constraints imposed by the visual quality objectives (VQOs) of retention or partial retention while providing for other multiple uses and resources. VQOs for a specific land area are identified on VQO maps which are part of the planning records.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 25,488 acres to achieve at least 75 percent of habitat potential; 69,807 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential; and 8,490 acres to achieve at least 25 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards:
 - Lands are classified as "suitable" for timber management; schedule timber harvest.
 - Harvest using shelterwood systems in the retention areas. Harvest using shelterwood or clearcut methods in the partial retention areas.
 - Reforest to desired stocking levels within 5 years except where long-term vistas are to be maintained.
 - Planned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 18 (pp. III-52)

- Goals:
 - Manage to improve the quality of the winter habitat for deer and elk through timber harvesting or prescribed burning, while meeting visual quality objectives of retention or partial retention on the appropriate acres. The mosaic created by these two management emphases in this area will require coordination in terms of timing and spatial arrangement of activities to assure that these prescriptions are properly implemented.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 572 acres to achieve at least 75 percent of habitat potential; 3,923 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential; and 1,573 acres to achieve at least 25 percent of habitat

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Forestwide Stand Improvement CE – Forest Plan Goals and Standards Supplement

potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).

- Standards:
 - Follow MA 16 and MA 17 standards except for fire management: planned and unplanned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 22 (pp. III-61-64)

- Goals:
 - Manage to ensure that Idaho water quality standards for community public supply water use are met. In all cases, existing beneficial uses of the water will be protected. To protect and, where needed, improve the quality and quantity of the water resource in a manner consistent with National, State, and Forest goals.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 1,510 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards:
 - Consider cumulative impacts of proposed activities on the municipal watershed.
 - Forest Service Handbook 2509.22 (Soil and Water Conservation Practices) should also be consulted whenever activity is planned within this management area.
 - Timber
 - Lands are classified as "suitable" for timber management; schedule timber harvest only when water quality standards can be maintained.
 - Require directional felling of trees away from streams whenever possible.
 - No timber harvest should be scheduled on landtype 50 CUU which is designated MA-1 within the municipal watershed.
 - Timber harvesting in MA-10 inclusions within the watershed will be designed to enhance bank stability and stream shade.
 - Protection
 - Apply integrated pest management to minimize losses and to protect water quality and quantity.
 - Planned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.

Management Area 23 (III-65-67)

- Goals:
 - Manage to ensure that Idaho water quality standards for community public supply water use are met. In all cases, existing beneficial uses of the water will be protected. To protect and, where needed, improve, the quality and quantity of the water resource in a manner consistent with National, State, and Forest goals.
 - The goal for summer elk habitat in this management area is to manage 7,002 acres to achieve at least 50 percent of habitat potential. Specific methods of how to achieve this will be determined on a site-specific basis during project planning (see Appendix B).
- Standards:

Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest Forestwide Stand Improvement CE – Forest Plan Goals and Standards Supplement

- Consider cumulative impacts of proposed activities on the municipal watershed. To the degree possible, management activities will be coordinated with other landowners in the watershed.
- Timber:
 - Lands are classified as "suitable" for timber management; schedule timber harvest.
 - Design timber harvest activities to protect or enhance the water resource. Emphasize sediment mitigation when harvest activities occur near streams.
 - Require directional felling of trees away from streams whenever possible.
- Protection:
 - Apply integrated pest management to minimize losses and to protect water quality and quantity.
 - Planned ignitions, when within prescription, will be allowed to burn to enhance resource values.